

CLAIMS

1. A method of solubilizing flavonoid(s) which comprises having the flavonoid(s) coexist with a soybean saponin and/or a malonyl isoflavone glycoside in an aqueous medium.

2. The solubilizing method according to claim 1, wherein the flavonoid(s) are one or more flavonoids selected from flavones, flavonols, flavanones, flavanonols, isoflavones, anthocyanins, flavanols, chalcones, and aurones.

3. A flavonoid solubilizing agent comprising a soybean saponin and/or a malonyl isoflavone glycoside.

4. A solubilized flavonoid composition obtainable by having flavonoid(s) coexist with a soybean saponin and/or a malonyl isoflavone glycoside in an aqueous medium.

5. A flavonoid-containing product comprising the solubilized flavonoid composition according to claim 4.

6. The flavonoid-containing product according to claim 5, which is a food or drink, a medicine, a quasi drug, a cosmetic, an oral preparation, a dentifrice, an aromatic agent, a deodorant, or a detergent.

7. The flavonoid-containing healthy food or drink according to claim 5, which has the physiological function(s) of the flavonoid(s).

8. A process for producing a flavonoid-containing product, which comprises the steps of adding flavonoid(s), and a soybean saponin and/or a malonyl isoflavone glycoside to an aqueous medium; and then subjecting the resulting
5 mixture to heat treatment to solubilize the flavonoid(s).

9. The process according to claim 8, wherein the flavonoid-containing product is a food or drink, a medicine, a quasi drug, a cosmetic, an oral preparation, a dentifrice, an aromatic agent, a deodorant, or a detergent.

10 10. The process for producing a flavonoid-containing healthy food or drink according to claim 8, to which the physiological function(s) of the flavonoid(s) have been imparted.